

QUALIFYING AND APPLYING FOR THE ARMY WORLD CLASS ATHLETE PROGRAM

To be eligible for the Army World Class Athlete Program, you must first

1. Be on active duty or a member of the Reserve Component
2. Be an athlete in an Olympic sport
3. Hold a national or junior national ranking within your sport's national governing body
4. Meet the specific entry standards for your sport

If you are eligible to apply, you must complete and submit

1. DA Form 4187 (Personnel Action)
2. DA Form 1058 (Reserve Component only – available at military personnel office)
3. DA Form 4762-R (Athlete's application)
4. DA Form 2A and 2-1 and three most recent evaluation reports (Enlisted personnel)
5. Officer Record Brief and three most recent evaluation reports (Officers)
4. Proof of eligibility to represent the US at the Olympic Games
5. Two letters of recommendation/endorsement from qualified individuals not related to you (coaches, supervisors, academic advisors, counselors, teachers)

THE APPLICATION/APPROVAL PROCESS

1. Active duty soldier submits application through commander and local (installation) sports office. National Guard applications are submitted through the state Adjutant General (TAG) to the National Guard Sports office.
2. Application is received by headquarters, Department of the Army WCAP staff at the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center.
3. Application is screened and validated
4. Applicant is interviewed by HQDA WCAP staff
5. Package is sent to the WCAP detachment commander and first sergeant for endorsement
6. If endorsement is positive, the packet is sent back to the HQDA WCAP program manager
7. If approved at HQDA, WCAP sends a request for orders to U.S. Army Personnel Command or headquarters, U.S. Army Reserve/National Guard Bureau
8. Pending PERSCOM/USAR approval, the assignment is entered into the automated personnel system.
8. Orders are cut by local personnel office or USAR.

Contact with applicants (soldiers)

- The WCAP Sports Specialist will verify that the soldier meets the athletic entry requirements to the program.**
- Upon verification of the soldier's athletic performance, the WCAP First Sergeant or Detachment Commander will contact the soldier's chain of command and discuss the soldier's duty performance**
- The WCAP First Sergeant/ Commander will speak to the soldier and explain the program as well as the rules and requirements, such as ethics, maintaining military MOS skills, maintaining level of proficiency in the sport. This counseling is documented in a memorandum for record.**
- Application package is forwarded to the WCAP program manager with a recommendation to approve or disapprove the soldier's assignment to WCAP.**
- If/when the soldier's application package is approved, the unit assigns the candidate a sponsor.**
- If the soldier needs to attend basic or individual advanced training, the soldier is sent to school and monitored by the WCAP detachment as the soldier progresses through training.**
- All soldiers are assigned to the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center World Class Athlete Program detachment at Fort Carson, Colo.**
- Upon arrival at the detachment, the soldier and his family inprocesses and receives an inbriefing from the detachment leaders and sports specialist.**

Prior to applying, please note:

Once an athlete is accepted into the WCAP program, his/her sponsor is the U.S. Army. All living, training, coaching, equipment, travel and competition expenses are paid for by the U.S. Army through the WCAP program. WCAP soldiers may not accept outside corporate sponsorship or funding unless it generated by and approved through the USACFSC.

WCAP soldiers are subject to NCAA rules and Department of Defense and Army Joint Ethics Regulations. This means athletes may not accept gifts of products, cash, merchandise, equipment, or certificates unless specifically approved by the USACFSC.

WCAP soldiers are expected to serve as youth role models, give clinics and speeches at high schools and colleges, interact and respond to the media, make appearances and engage in public relations activities that support the Army's recruiting goals.

All WCAP athletes receive media training and are expected to be spokespeople for the U.S. Army.

WCAP athletes who earn medals at the Olympic Games can expect to continue serving on active duty for up to a year after the Games to support media and recruiting activities.